



Maritime Heritage Working Group

Meeting Minutes

Date: 04/25/2011

Start Time: 2:00 PM

End Time: 3:15 PM

Meeting Method: Conference call; go-to-meeting

Attendance: Leader: Teri Leicher; Hans Van Tilburg, Erik Stein, Larry Widhelm, Patrick Price, Cindy Hunter, Cindi Punihaole, Jack Kittinger, Rick Rogers, Trisha Drennan, Terry O'Halloran, Dick Gould, Becky Hommon, Gavin Key

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- Update from April 4-5 SAC...SAC comments on MHWG plan must be taken on case-by-case basis. Our responsibility is first to marine context/submerged resources. Sensitive information issue: NHPA section 304 provides stating place for disclosure policy for MHWG and for HIHW.
- Selected dates for semi monthly calls: second and fourth Monday of each month (May and June). 3:00-4:00 PM indicated as best time.
- Heritage resources as archaeology recommendation: need for gathering of all existing information on maritime heritage resources within boundaries (multiple sources such as NOAA fisheries, Hawaii Undersea Research Lab, Army Corps of Engineers, State Historic Preservation Division, Bishop Museum, NPS, Kapa Māly, others). ACOE has large interest in the cultural resource field. Document-based inventory will support prioritization/evaluation of resources. Some of this data will be sensitive, need to be protected. Prioritization will indicate which sites warrant field assessment.
- Heritage resources as history recommendation: limiting efforts only to "anything older than 50 years" is arbitrary and not useful, may need to consider more recent resources of historical value as well. All potential heritage resources should be identified/noted (might be ruled out later following evaluation). Vessels intentionally sunk (ie artificial reefs) have a historical component too, should not be left out of heritage resources.
- Heritage resources as culture recommendation: recognize the significant overlap between areas of cultural heritage resources and maritime heritage resources. When resources of cultural heritage significance are noted, communicate/work collaboratively with Native Hawaiian Working Group. Respect culture and history, and the variety of heritage information. Discuss broader resource heritage issues with NHWG.
- Heritage resources as commercial recommendation: all shipwrecks can act as artificial reefs, (cannot really separate shipwreck component from natural component), therefore fishing at heritage sites is an issue for fishermen and dive operators as well (competition for moorings). Experience in Hawaii shows fishing gear on wrecks may not be as bad as other



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areas. Gear often removed by commercial dive operators. Given competing commercial interests, how to protect heritage resource? Increasing awareness of the resource is the best way to create protection for wrecks.

- Heritage resources as recreational recommendation: engaging sport diving community to help protect wrecks (become stewards) best way for protection of the resource. NOAA only beginning to work with coastal zone management committees in the maritime heritage area. Education is the big one: what's there, how to protect it (Corsair example). Educational committee of the sanctuary should be engaged in the maritime heritage resource issue.
- Further comments from the MHWG to be submitted to chair by email.

Action Items

- Distribute minutes
- Develop agenda for next meeting

Next meeting: 05/09/2011 at 3:00 PM